

Iraqis has climbed to its highest level since the war began, and in the month of July alone 100 Iraqis a day were being killed.

U.S. troops continue to pay too high a price. To date, more than 2,600 brave American soldiers have lost their lives, an additional 19,000 have been wounded, and we have now spent over \$320 billion in Iraq. Do we really need to lose 58,000 soldiers before we stop staying the same course in Iraq as we did in Vietnam?

It is time for a new strategy in Iraq, one where the Iraqis themselves, not foreign occupiers, are responsible for their Nation's future.

UNITY AND RESOLVE WILL WIN THE WAR ON TERROR

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Osama bin Laden himself has stated that victory for the extremists in Iraq will mean America's defeat and disgrace forever.

The terrorists clearly see Iraq has the central front in the global war on terror.

On Monday evening, the fifth anniversary of the attacks of 9/11 and the beginning of the war on terror, the President clearly stated the importance of success in Afghanistan and Iraq and winning that war. He understands the resolve that we need to meet the significant challenges faced by our Nation.

And what is the response of the Democratic leadership? To attack the President for even mentioning Iraq as a part of the war on terror. They seek, once again, to distract and divide America to score cheap political points.

For whatever reason, they do not take the terrorists at their word with regard to Iraq, or they do not care because they see a political benefit in undermining U.S. efforts.

The Democrats must understand that America must be united. We must have the resolve to defeat the terrorists in the heart of their power so we do not have to fight them on our own streets.

One has to wonder if the Democratic leadership cares as much about winning the war on terror as they do about winning the election in November.

□ 1015

PRESIDENT BUSH USES NATIONALLY TELEVISED SPEECH TO SPREAD DISINFORMATION

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, just when you thought the Bush administration had finally faced reality and admitted that Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11,

President Bush uses a nationally televised speech on 9/11 to once again blur the lines between the war on terror and the war in Iraq.

Last week, a bipartisan Senate Intelligence Committee report concluded that the U.S. intelligence analysts were strongly disputing any link between al Qaeda and Iraq, while the Bush administration officials were fabricating links to justify invading Iraq.

Over the last month, President Bush and Vice President CHENEY have admitted to the American people there was no link between the terrorist attack on September 11 and the Iraq war. Yet, during a nationally televised speech on Monday, the President once again had the audacity to say that the safety of America depends on the outcome of the battle in the streets of Baghdad, once again connecting in many people's minds 9/11 and Iraq.

The President can't have it both ways. And on an issue so important as this, national security, the President should level with the American people and admit it is time to make a change and change the course in Iraq.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER U.S. CONGRESSMAN CLAIR BURGNER

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I inform the House of the passing of our former colleague, the gentleman from California, Clair Burgener. He was an amazing individual, and I have a load of articles here that have been written about him over the past several days.

I think the San Diego Union-Tribune put it extraordinarily well when it said: "Burgener earned a reputation for honesty and modesty in a three-decade career that began in San Diego city politics and ended in the hallways of the Nation's Capitol."

As we look at this time of partisan divide here, former nine-term Democratic Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin said, "He was a wonderful colleague. He and I were on different levels as far as our voting went, but we didn't try to hold back or fool each other."

And Herb Klein, the retired editor in chief of Copley Newspapers and director of communications for President Nixon, recalled a man of unbending ethics: "Clair Burgener was the epitome of a great American Congressman. He was honest and ethical, a strong leader dedicated to his community. He was a wonderful friend whose warmth never waned."

Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers go to Clair's wife, Marvia. We thank him for his extraordinary service to the United States of America.

PRESIDENT ATTEMPTS TO CONNECT IRAQ WITH OVERALL WAR ON TERROR

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, on Monday night, President Bush continued this difficult job he has of trying to connect the war in Iraq with al Qaeda. He said it is the most difficult part of his job. Because there is no connection.

Even the Senate report this past week said, and it is a bipartisan report from the Senate Intelligence Committee, said there is no link between Saddam Hussein and al Qaeda. The Senators wrote: "Saddam expressed only negative opinions about Osama bin Laden."

Yet the President had the audacity on Sunday night to say that our Nation's safety depends on what happens in the streets of Baghdad. Now, Mr. Speaker, we have to ask the President, where were you when you set this war up and you told General Shinseki, head of the Army, we didn't need 350,000 people; we could go over there with a minimal force?

You led us into this quagmire, and you have got to give us a way out. We need the strategic redeployment that Mr. MURTHA is talking about.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to the President.

BORDER SECURITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that partisan bickering and ill-fated policies toward immigration reform will simply not solve the crisis we are facing today. We must produce a solution to border security and close a major loophole in our Nation's security, thereby fulfilling the most important role of the Federal Government.

It is time we turn off the faucet before we decide to fix the pipes. Now is not the time to work on comprehensive reform. During the District Work Period in August, my constituents delivered a clear message: no amnesty, just secure the borders now. After 22 immigration field hearings, an identical resounding and powerful message has been sent to officials in Washington: secure the borders now.

Why are my colleagues on the other side of the aisle so opposed to the will of the American people? Security is an issue that should not be taken lightly, much less used for political gain.

Mr. Speaker, we are now in Washington to represent those who voted to send us here, and we must not ignore the message they are sending. It is time to secure the borders and stop the unending flow of illegal aliens.

HOW SAFE IS AMERICA TODAY FROM TERRORIST ATTACKS?

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. How safe is America today from terrorist attacks? Here are some of the results from Foreign Policy magazine's recently published "Terrorism Index," a survey of over 100 top national security experts from across the political spectrum, with the results weighted to ensure balance between conservatives and liberals.

Among the key findings are, one, 84 percent of the experts said we are losing the war on terror. Eighty-six percent said that the world is becoming more dangerous for the United States and the American people. Ninety-three percent said the war in Afghanistan had a positive impact on the war on terror, but 87 percent said the war in Iraq had a negative impact on the war on terror.

It is clear to the American people now that this country is moving in the wrong direction, the wrong direction in the war in Iraq; and it is time for a new direction. The Democrats offer a new direction for America.

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in the 5 years since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, we have made great strides in fighting global terrorism, but this war is not over. The recently uncovered plot to bomb U.S.-bound passenger jets made it clear that we are still threatened.

As we remember 9/11, we must renew our commitment to winning this war against Islamic terrorists. Make no mistake, the enemy hasn't lost its resolve. Osama bin Laden put it this way. He said, "The whole world is watching this war and the two adversaries. It is either victory and glory or misery and humiliation."

Our enemies are determined, but they will be defeated if we remain vigilant. As Congress deliberates this month, we must continue to make the protection of the American people our top priority. America's greatest strength lies with our people's love of freedom. By doing what it takes to win this war, we will show that our love for freedom is stronger than our enemy's desire for bloodshed and tyranny.

DEMOCRATS SUPPORT DEMOCRACY AT HOME AS WELL AS ABROAD

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the statement by Majority Leader

BOEHNER was shameful and disgraceful. To suggest that my fellow Democrats care more about protecting the terrorists than the American people is not right, it is not fair, it is not just, and it is not the American way.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats will not stand by and let a single attack go unanswered. You may play the politics of fear, you may question the patriotism of those who use their constitutional rights to criticize this administration, but this dog will not hunt. This dog just will not hunt.

The American people know better. They want this Nation to take a new path. They want to move in a different direction. They want leaders who respect the dignity and the values of our democracy. We cannot defend democracy abroad if we don't practice it here at home.

CONGRATULATING HARALSON COUNTY, GEORGIA, ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Haralson County, Georgia, which this year is celebrating its 150th anniversary.

One hundred fifty years ago, back in 1856, the Georgia General Assembly created Haralson County from parts of Carroll and Polk Counties. Haralson County is forever tied to the statesman of its founding. The county was named after a distinguished soldier and a United States Congressman, Hugh Haralson, and the county's seat, Buchanan, was named several years later after President James Buchanan.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most recognizable sites in the city of Buchanan is the courthouse, built in 1891, and currently listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. The courthouse is symbolic of Haralson County, for as the county has grown and changed over the past 150 years, it has never lost sight of its history and founding.

And though the county's founders might not recognize some of the recent additions, like the Honda plant, I know they would feel right at home in the warm communities that populate this county. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating the citizens of Bremen, Buchanan, Tallapoosa, Waco, and all of Haralson County on this historic occasion.

PRESIDENTIAL RHETORIC VS. ECONOMIC REALITY

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Education and Workforce Committee, I am shocked at the difference between Presidential rhetoric

and economic reality. Every time the President speaks about the state of our Nation, it becomes apparent just how out of touch he really is.

Last month, after meeting at Camp David with his economic team, the President told reporters that things are good for the American worker. Let me ask: What exactly is his economic team telling him?

The reality is that American workers are suffering, while corporate profits soar. Productivity in our Nation has increased, but the workers who are putting in the extra effort have no piece of that wealth they are helping to create. In fact, wages and salaries are at their lowest proportion of the economy, while corporate profits are at the highest level since 1960.

What that means for the average American worker is that they are working harder without receiving any real pay increase. Meanwhile, the companies they work for are reporting record profits. Something is wrong. We need to turn it around and have that reality work for the working people.

PRESIDENT HAS MISLED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ON IRAQ

(Ms. WATERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States continues to try and sell Americans on the fact that we should be in Iraq.

Mr. President, where is Osama bin Laden? Mr. President, you have spent over \$300 billion on this occupation in Iraq. You have misled this country. We have over 2,700 soldiers that are dead and the occupation continues. We are less safe.

The real war is in Afghanistan. We have not dedicated the soldiers or the money there. That border between Afghanistan and Pakistan is a staging ground for our soldiers to be attacked, yet we wrap our arms around Mr. Musharraf, the President of Pakistan. They won't even let us come into Pakistan to get the terrorists who are attacking our soldiers.

It is time for the President of the United States to own up to the fact that he has made a mistake. He has misled the American people. We cannot continue this occupation. It is draining us of our resources, and it is placing us in real danger. Mr. President, go get Osama bin Laden.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will request once again that Members address their remarks to the Chair and not to the President.